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## Senate

The Senate met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable CHRISTOPHER MURPHY, a Senator from the State of Connecticut.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal Father, in a turbulent world filled with wars and rumors of war, be merciful and bless us.

May Your ways be known to our Senators, and may they seek Your guidance. Carry them in Your strong arms, enabling them to accomplish with Your might what they cannot do with their strength alone.

O God, summon Your might and display Your power in these challenging days of Earth's history. Use us to speak of Your majesty, power, and strength to those held captive by fear.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, July 14, 2014.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable CHRISTOPHER MURPHY, a Senator from the State of Connecticut, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. MURPHY thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

### PROTECT WOMEN'S HEALTH FROM CORPORATE INTERFERENCE ACT OF 2014—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 459, S. 2578, the Protect Women's Health From Corporate Interference Act.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 459, S. 2578, a bill to ensure that employers cannot interfere in their employees' birth control and other health care decisions.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following my remarks and those of the Republican leader, if any, there will be a period of morning business until 6 p.m. this evening, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each. There will be no rollcall votes during today's session of the Senate. The reason for that is last week we were able to get a few things done. We were able to do some things around here the way we used to do them.

I know my Republican colleagues lament how things used to be. Well, I was there. I know how things used to be. One of the things we used to do is we would work out pieces of legislation, as we did on terrorism insurance. We have a number of people who worked hard on that: Chairman JOHNSON, Senator SCHUMER—he worked with Ranking Member CRAPO—and they came up with a way forward on an important piece of legislation. There will be some amendments. We will finish that legislation this week—very important, important

to our country, important to our economy, important to the construction industry. So I was very happy to see that done. So there are no votes tonight, and that is the reason for that.

There will be no rollcall votes during today's session, as I mentioned. The next rollcall votes will be tomorrow at noon. Those will be two cloture votes on nominees to be members of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

### SUING THE PRESIDENT

Mr. President, the Republicans have made a decision on a lawsuit against President Obama. It is difficult to understand how they have become so desperate that now they are talking about: Our issue of the day is not the minimum wage. Our issue of the day is not that women and men get the same amount of money for doing the same work. The issue of the day is not the crippling debt that is staggering this country; that is, student loan debt. Extended unemployment benefits—that is nothing they are focused on. I could go through a long list of what is important to the middle class that they simply are ignoring. So what are they doing to solve the problems of this country? Suing the President.

Mr. President, listen to what they are suing him about. They have been broadcasting for weeks their intention to sue the President, but they just did not know why. That is what they said, not I. Now, after misstep after misstep after misstep, they know why they are suing the President; they want to litigate ObamaCare.

The Acting President pro tempore has done a remarkably good job of calling out Republican Senators when they come to the floor and make these ridiculously false statements, and I appreciate that. I think everybody in the country, if they do not, should appreciate what the junior Senator from Connecticut has done.

House Republicans have identified President Obama's delayed enforcement of employer obligations in the

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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